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|-------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|--|
| <b>Notice of Allowability</b> | Application No. | Applicant(s) |  |
|                               | 09/746,487      | TU ET AL.    |  |
|                               | Examiner        | Art Unit     |  |
|                               | Ashok B. Patel  | 2154         |  |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1.  This communication is responsive to 03/13/2006.
2.  The allowed claim(s) is/are 14-23 and 26-30.
3.  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a)  All
  - b)  Some\*
  - c)  None
  1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4.  A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5.  CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a)  including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1)  hereto or 2)  to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b)  including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying Indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6.  DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1.  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2.  Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3.  Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date 04/06/2004
4.  Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5.  Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6.  Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
7.  Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8.  Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9.  Other \_\_\_\_\_.

  
**JOHN FOLLANSBEE**  
 SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
 TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

**DETAILED ACTION**

1. Claims 14-23 and 26-30 are allowed. Claims 1-13, 24 and 25 are cancelled.

**EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Lawrence M. Mennemeier on 05/23/2006.

3. The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

- a. Claim 14 (Currently Amended) A multiprocessor system including a semaphore checker comprising:

means for receiving one or more semaphore modification requests from one or more requesting devices;

means for identifying an ownership state of a semaphore corresponding to the one or more semaphore modification requests;

means for arbitrating to identify a first modification request of the one or more semaphore modification requests, the first modification request from a first requesting device;

means for granting the first modification request if the identified ownership state corresponds to the first requesting device; and

means for granting the first modification request if the identified ownership state corresponds to no owner.

- b. Claims 24 and 25 are cancelled.
- c. Claim 26, line 1, replace "25" with --11--.
- d. Claim 27, line 1, replace "25" with --11--.
- e. Claim 29, line 1, replace "25" with --11--.
- f. Claim 30, line 1, replace "25" with --11--.

#### **REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Applicant's arguments provided on pages 7, 17 and 18 of the Appeal Brief filed 03/13/2006 that the combination of the references Derrick and Dao does not teach the claimed limitations when construing the claim limitations to specification Fig.5, page 7, line 5-11, Fig. 5, page 5, line 11 through page 6, line 8 are persuasive. None of the prior arts of record teach or suggest the claimed limitations.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ashok B. Patel whose telephone number is (703) 305-2655. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John A Follansbee can be reached on (703) 305-8498. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Abp

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